

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Italy

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1. The Central Committee of the Partito Comunista Italiano (PCI; Italian Communist Party) recently sent a circular to the Provincial PCI Federations entitled "Our Election Campaign against Swindling, Corruption, and Blackmail".
2. It revealed that in the past elections, the adversaries of the PCI, particularly the Christian Democrats, were able to obtain votes from the more backward part of the electoral body by means of intimidation, blackmail, corruption and trickery. The circular goes on to say that these means would be very useful in this election. To avoid this, it is necessary for the "democratic" parties to arouse the indignation of the masses and to mobilize them against those who apply these methods.
3. In order to fight and denounce them, it is necessary to study the various methods used by the adversaries, among which the principal ones are: blackmailing at one's place of work, religious intimidation, and corruption with packages of pasta and 1,000 lire notes. The fundamental basis of Communist electoral propaganda must be the denunciation of these methods; maintaining that "economic and religious intimidation, corruption and trickery" are all crimes reportable to the judicial authorities.

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